IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/597,665 **Confirmation No.:** 4648

Applicant: Massimo Paladini et al.

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Docket No.: 06CIO011

Customer No.: 000039232

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified national stage application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

The **Conclusion** is at page 7 of this paper.

No new matter has been added. All amendments and remarks herein are made without prejudice.